



**WILLIAM CUMMINGS**  
Son of John Cummings and Rachel Kennedy. Born July 30, 1835, in Gibson County, Tenn. Indian War Veteran. Said to have been first settler to have plowed first ground in Provo Valley, Utah.

# WILLIAM CUMMINGS AND MARY ANN MEEKS CUMMINGS



William Cummings, born July 30, 1835, in Gibson County, Tennessee, son of John and Rachel Canarda Cummings. William married Mary Ann Meeks (born November 23, 1844, daughter of William and Mary Elizabeth Rhodes Meeks) October 23, 1861, at Provo, Utah. Died January 28, 1922, at Kanosh, Utah.

William Cummings was the son of John and Rachel Canarda Cummings, born in Gibson County, Tennessee, July 30, 1835. He came to Utah with his parents in the John Maxwell company.

In the fall of 1857 William went up the Provo River with Joseph Parker, where they were trapping beaver, and came into the Provo Valley. They stayed there all winter and trapped. In the spring they built four cabins. That summer William Cum-

mings, Joseph Parker, Andrew Ross, William Meeks, and William Wall brought their livestock into the valley and wintered them on Meek's Bottom.

During the winter of 1859-60 these men moved to Center Creek and built a sawmill in Center Creek Canyon. William Cummings plowed the first ground in this valley. In 1860, 17 families moved to Provo Valley, among them being the parents of William and John Cummings.

William joined in the Black Hawk War. He had learned to talk with the Indians and acted as an interpreter. Chief Tabby, with a group of Indians, called at his home and demanded he make a treaty. He took the Indians to an official who was plowing a field and there a final treaty was made. This ended the Indian troubles around Heber.

William Cummings married Mary Ann Meeks, daughter of William and Mary Elizabeth Rhodes Meeks, October 23, 1861, at Provo, Utah. She was born November 23, 1844.

To them were born the following children: William, Mary Elizabeth, John, Rachel, Nancy Jane, Ada Eveline, Sarah Ann, Mary Ann, Harvey, Isaac, and Eva.

The William Cummings family and Andrew, Thomas and Robert Ross moved to southern Utah and settled at Corn Creek, which was later named Kanosh. William Cummings died January 28, 1922, at Kanosh, Utah.

(Taken from history of Eva Cummings Johnson and "History Book of the Early Utah Pioneers.")